

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 /126 W
----- 127755

R 171130Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3437

INFO SECDEF

CJCS

COMUSSAG

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 11281

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, CB

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON CONSCRIPTION

1. THANKS TO VOLUNTEERS DESTINED FOR SPECIFIC
UNITS, PHNOM PENH HAS BEGUN TO MEET ITS DAILY
QUOTA OF 250 NEW RECRUITS AND THE RECEPTION CENTER IS
FULL. ALTHOUGH A FEW MILITARY AND CIVIL LEADERS

HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH AIDING DRAFT EVADERS, THE
MACHINERY TO
ENFORCE REGISTRATION AND CONSCRIPTION
AT THE LOWER LEVELS OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT IS NOT
FUNCTIONING PROPERLY AND MANY OF THOSE PROCESSED
BY THE EXAMINING BOARDS HAVE NOT REACHED THE RE-

CEPTION CENTER. HOWEVER THE RECEPTION CENTER HAS
MADE UNUSUAL PROGRESS AND IS PREPARED TO PROCESS 500
RECRUITS EVERY TWO DAYS.

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2. DURING THE PAST TWO DAYS 2880 LETTERS OF CONVOCAION
HAVE BEEN ISSUED, 637 MEN HAVE APPEARED BEFORE

EXAMINING BOARDS, AND 324 HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO THE RECEPTION CENTER. VOLUNTEERS, MOST OF WHOM WERE RECRUITED BY THE PHNOM SPECIAL REGION, THE FIRST DIVISION AND THE FIFTH BRIGADE, NUMBERED 435 BRINGING TO TWO-DAY ACCESSION TOTAL TO 759. TOTALS OF THE SIX-(4 DAY FOR CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN, ACCORDING TO CITY OFFICIALS, NOW STAND AS 9897 CONVOCATIONS ISSUED, 1661 APPEARANCES, 703 CONSCRIPTS AND 567 VOLUNTEERS (NOT INCLUDING INITIAL GROUP OF 453 VOLUNTEERS FOR THE SPECIAL REGION).

3. AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON 15 OCT. 73, 717 VOLUNTEERS AND 79 DRAFTEES HAD BEEN REPORTED AS PROCESSED THROUGH THE RECEPTION CENTER AND SENT TO TRAINING CENTERS, INCLUDING THE VOLUNTEERS FOR THE SPECIAL REGION. THE RECEPTION CENTER REPORTS 489 (426 VOLUNTEERS AND 63 DRAFTEES) PRESENT AND SCHEDULED FOR RELOCATION TO TRAINING CENTERS ON 18 OCTOBER.

4. WHEN COMPARED WITH MUNICIPAL REPORTS, THE RECEPTION CENTER REPORTS INDICATE THAT, DURING THE SIX-DAYS OF RECRUITING, 624 DRAFTEES AND 303 VOLUNTEERS IDENTIFIED AS SUCH BY THE KHAND ADMINISTRATIVE CENTERS HAVE NOT REACHED THE RECEPTION CENTER.

5. THE PRESENT SATISFACTORY RATE OF ACCESSIONS CAN PROBABLY ONLY BE MAINTAINED OVER A SUFFICIENT PERIOD IF THE VENERAL MOBILIZATION CHIEFS ARE REQUIRED TO EXPAND THEIR REGISTRATION LISTS AND IF MEASURES ARE GRADUALLY TAKEN TO BRING IN THOSE FAILING TO REPORT TO THE EXAMINING BOARDS. THE JOINT STAFF'S INSPECTION AND CONTROL MACHINERY HAS NOT YET BEGUN TO SEE THAT THIS IS DONE, HOWEVER. GENERAL THAPPANA NGINN ADMITTED YESTERDAY THAT THE LACK OF QUALIFIED OFFICERS HAS FORCED HIM TO SCRAP PLANS TO EXPAND INSPECTION AND CONTROL TEAMS TO THIRTY AND THAT THE EXISTING EIGHT TEAMS HAVE YET TO ACQUIRE ADEQUATE TRANSPORTATION. PHNOM PENH GOVERNOR UN TRAMUCH, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAS ESTABLISHED EIGHT
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CONTROL TEAMS OF HIS OWN, WHICH CONSIST ENTIRELY OF CITY CIVIL SERVANTS WHO ARE CONCENTRATING ON EXPANDING REGISTRATION LISTS. UN TRAMUCH ON OCT. 16 ISSUED ORDERS THAT THE NAMES OF REGISTRANTS NOT REPORTING BE GIVEN TO THE NATIONAL POLICE AND NATIONAL GENDARMERIE, BUTH THESE ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES HAVE YET TO BEGIN ROUND-UPS. THE JOINT STAFF WAS TO MEET TODAY TO DISCUSS FURTHER MEANS OF HANDLING THE ENFORCEMENT PROBLEMS.

6. TWO FANK BATTALION COMMANDER AND TWO CIVIL

SERVANTS HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH SELLING DOCUMENTATION TO PERMIT DRAFTEES TO RECEIVE DEFERRALS. THESE CASES HAVE BEEN PUBLICIZED, AND THAPPANA NGINN AND UN TRAMUCH ASSURE US THAT STEPS WILL BE TAKEN TO BRING THE CULPRITS BEFORE MILITARY TRIBUNALS.

7. THE EXAMINING BOARDS NOW HAVE A BACK LOG OF WORK AS THOSE SEEKING DEFERRALS FLOCK TO THE KHAND OFFICES. ADDITIONAL BOARDS ARE BEING ESTABLISHED FOR THE CITY'S TWO LARGEST KHANDS AND SEPARATE EXAMINATION FACILITIES FOR STUDENTS ARE BEING SET UP IN ALL THE KHANDS TO TAKE CARE OF THIS PROBLEM.

8. MEDTC AND EMBASSY OFFICERS VISITED THE RECEPTION CENTER THIS MORNING (OCT. 17) AT THE INVITATION OF THAPPANA NGINN. EFFICIENT PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED TO PHOTOGRAPH, DOCUMENT, EQUIP AND PAY THE NEW RECRUITS, AND OPERATIONS APPEARED TO BE RUNNING SMOOTHLY AT FULL CAPACITY. SLEEPING, EATING AND RECREATION FACILITIES FOR THE RECRUITS ARE ADEQUATE. THE OVERALL ATTRACTIVENESS OF THE RECEPTION CENTER HAS, OUR FANK CONTACT BELIEVE, CONTRIBUTED TO THE RECENT INFLUX OF VOLUNTEERS.

9. THE FANK DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF INSTRUCTION (DGI) PUBLISHED AN ORDER ON OCT. 10 DESIGNATING THE PRIORITY IN WHICH EACH TRAINING CENTER IS TO BE FILLED AND THE NUMBER OF RECRUITS EACH TRAINING CENTER IS TO RECEIVE. TRAINING CENTER #6 AT LOVEK WAS DESIGNATED PRIORITY ONE AND IS TO RECEIVE 700 RECRUITS. A MEDTC/FANK TEAM VISITED THE LOVEK TRAINING CENTER ON
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16 OCT. AND CONCLUDED THAT THE CENTER IS IN FACT CAPABLE OF ABSORBING 700 ADDITIONAL RECRUITS. INDEED, DURING THE TEAM'S VISIT, 247 RECRUITS ARRIVED FROM THE RECEPTION CENTER IN PHNOM PENH. LOVEK IS SCHEDULED TO RECEIVE 447 MORE RECRUITS ON 18 OCT. THE MEDTC/FANK TEAM WILL VISIT THE OTHER TRAINING CENTERS IN THE NEAR FUTURE IN THE ORDER OF PRIORITY DESIGNATED BY DGI'S 10 OCT. ORDER.
ENDERS

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